



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
59TH MEDICAL WING (AETC)  
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO - LACKLAND TEXAS

14 FEB 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR SGVT

ATTN: MAJ DANIEL M. MOSELEY

FROM: 59 MDW/SGVU

SUBJECT: Professional Presentation Approval

1. Your paper, entitled Pneumoperitoneum During Endovein Harvest presented at/published to Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL, 21-26 April 2017 in accordance with MDWI 41-108, has been approved and assigned local file #17074.
2. Pertinent biographic information (name of author(s), title, etc.) has been entered into our computer file. Please advise us (by phone or mail) that your presentation was given. At that time, we will need the date (month, day and year) along with the location of your presentation. It is important to update this information so that we can provide quality support for you, your department, and the Medical Center commander. This information is used to document the scholarly activities of our professional staff and students, which is an essential component of Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center (WHASC) internship and residency programs.
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4. Congratulations, and thank you for your efforts and time. Your contributions are vital to the medical mission. We look forward to assisting you in your future publication/presentation efforts.

LINDA STEEL-GOODWIN, Col, USAF, BSC  
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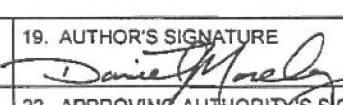
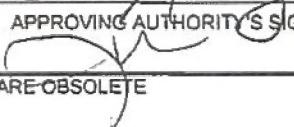
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21. APPROVING AUTHORITY'S PRINTED NAME, RANK, TITLE Christopher J. Nagy, Lt Col, SAUSHEC Anesthesia Program Director	22. APPROVING AUTHORITY'S SIGNATURE 		23. DATE 31 Jan 2017

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28. AUTHOR CONTACTED FOR RECOMMENDED OR NECESSARY CHANGES:  NO  YES If yes, give date. \_\_\_\_\_  N/A

29. COMMENTS  APPROVED  DISAPPROVED

Single patient case study with appropriate disclaimers

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Kevin Kupferer/GS13/Hum Res Subj Prot Expert

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Kevin Iinuma, SSgt/E-5, 59 MDW Public Affairs

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## Pneumoperitoneum During Endovein Harvest

Daniel M. Moseley, M.D.; L F Maracaja Neto, M.D.  
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

### Introduction

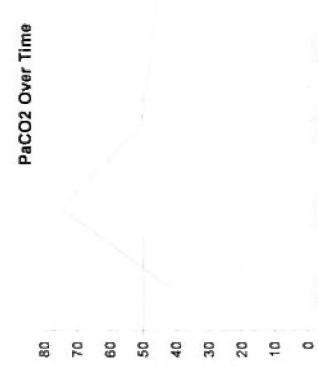
We describe a case of intraoperative pneumoperitoneum during endovein saphenous vein harvest for coronary artery bypass graft. This case demonstrates the importance of vigilant intraoperative monitoring and consideration of novel but serious pathophysiology.

### History and Management

A 60-yr-old white male with unstable coronary artery disease was referred for coronary artery bypass graft. Past medical history was significant for neuroendocrine tumors of the GI tract, hypertension, obesity, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, and esophageal stricture status post multiple dilations. Past surgical history included inguinal hernia repair, knee surgery, and hip surgery.

The anesthesia plan included general endotracheal anesthesia with standard ASA monitors, pre-induction a-line, central line, TEE placement with video laryngoscopic guidance, and cerebral oximetry.

Causes for increased  $ETCO_2$  were investigated including blood gas sampling. Upon inspection the patient's abdomen was severely distended, though the surgical team reported no significant subcutaneous crepitus on palpation. The surgeon decided to open the abdominal cavity by extending the sternotomy incision and performing a small peritoneal opening. Upon the entrance of the peritoneum a brisk escape of  $CO_2$  occurred resulting in hemodynamic improvement.



The induction of anesthesia and sternotomy were uneventful. The harvest of LIMA and saphenous vein were initiated, and within a few minutes it was noticed that  $ETCO_2$  was higher than expected for ventilator settings ( $CMV\ TV=690\ RR=12=Insp\ time=1.7\ PEEP=5\ FiO_2=100\%$ ). The patient gradually became more hypotensive.

The inguinal canal seems a likely candidate, both due to its natural anatomic communications and the patient's prior inguinal hernia surgery.

Besides exogenous  $CO_2$ , other considerations for hypercapnea in this setting include hypoventilation, rebreathing, increased  $CO_2$  production, and increased dead space ventilation.

### Conclusion

Pneumoperitoneum is a rare but potentially serious complication of endovein harvest. The anesthesiologist but be vigilant to quickly identify and correct associated hypercapnea or hemodynamic changes. Intraoperative diagnosis via monitoring devices, physical exam, and blood gas should quickly narrow the differential diagnosis and permit swift correction of physiologic derangement. Communication with the surgical team is paramount to successful diagnosis and treatment.

### References

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